

PEOPLE WHO WORK.

STATISTICS ABOUT AMERICAN WAGE EARNERS.

Numbers and Wages of Male and Female Employees Compared—Proportion of Women Who Work Is Increasing, While Proportion of Men Is Decreasing.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The eleventh annual report of the Bureau of Labor, just transmitted to Congress by Commissioner Wright, was prepared, in obedience to a joint resolution of Congress directing an investigation relative to the employment of men, women and children, and is confined strictly to a comparison of the extent of employment and wages of 1895-96, or "present period" with the conditions in what is termed "former period" antedating the present period by at least ten years.

The agents of the department secured information from 1,067 establishments of various kinds, located in thirty different states and employing 148,367 persons—a number large enough to insure that the data collected were thoroughly representative. The complete data sought for, however, were obtained from 931 establishments employing 64,560 persons in the former and 108,648 in the present period. Of this number in the first period 26,749 were males of 18 years of age or over, as against 43,195 in the second, 4,175 males under 18 years of age, as against 7,940 in the second, 27,163 females, 18 years of age or over, and 6,743 females under 18 years of age, as against 45,182 and 12,751, respectively, in the present period. The male employees 13 years of age or over increased in the present period over the former period 63.1 per cent, while female employees of the same age period increased 66.3 per cent. Male employees under 18 years of age increased 80.6 per cent, while female employees under 18 years of age increased 89.1 per cent.

The proportion of females 10 years of age and over employed in all occupations in the United States rose in its relation to the whole number employed from 14.68 per cent in 1870 to 17.32 per cent in 1890, while males decreased in proportion from 85.32 per cent in 1870 to 82.78 per cent in 1890. For the present period, out of an aggregate of 79,987 women, 70,921, or 88.7 per cent were single, 6,755, or 8.5 per cent married, 2,411 or 3.0 per cent divorced and 244, or 3.10 of 1 per cent unknown. Of the 3,914,571 females 10 years of age or over engaged in gainful pursuits in the United States in 1890, 69.84 per cent were single or their conjugal condition unknown, 13.16 per cent married, 16.10 per cent widowed and 90 per cent divorced. Of 782 instances in which men and women work at the same occupation and perform their work with the same degree of efficiency, men receive greater pay in 595 or 76.1 per cent of the instances, and women receiving greater pay in 129 or 16.6 per cent while in 58 instances or 7.4 per cent the men receive 50.1 per cent greater pay than the women in the 595 instances in which they are given greater pay, while the women receive but 10.3 per cent greater pay in the 129 instances in which they are paid higher wages.

Out of the 928 instances in which men and children (persons under 18 years of age) work at the same occupation with a like degree of efficiency, men receive greater pay in 182, or 79.8 per cent of the instances, and children receive greater pay in 24 or 10.5 per cent, while in 22 instances or 9.7 per cent they receive the same pay for the same work performed with the same degree of efficiency. The men receive 57.7 per cent greater pay than the children in the 182 instances in which they are paid more, while the children receive but 8.6 per cent greater pay in the 24 instances in which they are paid the higher wages.

The main reason for the employment of women and girls is that they are better adapted for the work at which they are employed. Other reasons given are that they are more reliable, more easily controlled, cheaper, more temperate, more easily procurable, neater, more rapid, more industrious, less liable to strike and learn more rapidly.

NO REHEARING.

The Supreme Court Refuses to Consider Duestrow's Case—Respite Asked For.
JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 13.—The supreme court en banc refused to grant the order asked in the Duestrow case to compel division No. 2 to transfer the application for a hearing to the court en banc.

Duestrow's attorneys then made application to Governor Stephens for a respite for thirty days.

J. D. Rockefeller's Offer.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—At a meeting of Baptists last night at the residence of J. D. Rockefeller, the Standard Oil magnate promised to contribute \$250,000 toward paying off the total indebtedness of \$456,000 resting upon the Baptist Foreign and Home Missionary societies, provided other friends of the societies should subscribe the remaining \$236,000 by July 1.

A Gift From Gamblers.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 13.—Topeka's new chief of police, Henry Steele, has been presented with a handsome star by the leaders of the Topeka gambling fraternity. It is made of gold, has a large ruby in the center and the lettering is of black enamel. Upon the reverse side are engraved the names of the givers.

Arkansas Town Wiped Out by Fire.
LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 13.—The town of Malvern, which was almost wiped out by fire last July, was visited by a conflagration to-day which destroyed the rebuilt portion. The loss will aggregate \$100,000.

Tripoli's Synagogue Despoiled.
TRIPOLI, Feb. 13.—The Turkish officials having withdrawn the guard from the Jewish quarter here, a mob of Mussulmans invaded it, pillaged the synagogue and destroyed the scrolls of the law.

TRADE THE COUNTRY OVER

Dun Comments on Disruption of the Steel Rail Pool.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "No other event of the week approaches in importance the disruption of the steel rail pool. In two days after it, a greater tonnage of rails was probably purchased than the entire production last year, reported as 800,000 tons, and instead of \$28 in December and \$25 in January, \$17 is now the price at which works East and West are seeking orders, the Carnegie company even selling at \$17, Chicago delivery. These sales will employ many thousand hands, with an important decrease in the cost of track laying or renewals to railroads.

Also important is the struggle between the two great companies producing Mesaba iron ore, one allied with the Illinois Steel and the other with the Carnegie company, which is expected to bring about lower prices for ore, and to push many mines to their utmost capacity. But in the war of rival interests wages are already reduced by some large concerns.

Would Order the Lands Opened.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—An important amendment has been made to the Indian appropriation bill by the Senate, which provides for a different course than heretofore adopted for opening lands to settlement. The amendment is as follows: "That all that part of the Uncompahgre Indian reservations in the state of Utah, except such lands as have been heretofore allotted or selected for allotment to said Indians, is hereby declared open to public entry under the land laws of the United States; provided, that no one person shall be allowed to make more than four claims on lands containing Gilsonite."

Married in Tights.

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 13.—Arthur T. Gorman of Baltimore, who is said to be a nephew of United States Senator Gorman, was married last night to Miss Annie Waltman of the Wood Sisters' Burlesque Vaudeville company. The marriage was performed on the stage of the Capitol Square theater and the bride appeared in her costume of tights worn by her during the regular performance. The novelty of the wedding and of the bride's unusual apparel provoked much applause from the large audience. Justice Teagan performed the ceremony.

Negro Robs a National Bank.

SALTSBURG, Pa., Feb. 13.—About noon Cashier J. A. Klingensmith of the First National bank was held up by a colored man and forced to hand over \$400. The man entered the bank when no one but Mr. Klingensmith was present and asked for some change. When the cashier looked up the black man held a revolver to his head and ordered him to hand over the cash. Mr. Klingensmith handed out a package containing \$400, and as soon as the robber left the bank the cashier gave the alarm and a crowd was soon in pursuit. After a hot chase of a mile or two, the man was captured and the money recovered.

They Will Build a Railway.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Feb. 13.—The organization of the Boone Coal company, to operate extensive mines in rich coal fields in this vicinity, has been completed. An effort will be put forth to extend the Wabash branch railroad south to the Missouri river and north to Perry, in Ralls county, in order to connect at that point with the Missouri, Kansas and Texas. The capitalists have offered to contribute a large sum to secure the road.

Monuments for Noted Missourians.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 13.—The Senate committee on appropriations decided to recommend the passage of bills providing for monuments to Thomas H. Benton at St. Louis and to Daniel Boone at St. Charles, where he died. The bills originally provided for \$10,000 for each monument, but the committee cut the amount to \$1,500. A monument to Governor Marquette will also be favored.

Cattle Thieves Killed.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Feb. 13.—A desperate battle between Sheriff Jones and posse and a band of cattle thieves took place in Kimball county, Texas, yesterday. The sheriff's posse had been on the trail of the thieves several days, and finally came upon their camp in the hills. The thieves showed fight, and two of them, J. C. Johnson and Jim Crain, were killed, and Jack Underwood fatally wounded. None of the sheriff's posse was injured.

Paine's Title May Be Valid.

GUTHRIE, Okla., Feb. 13.—The territorial supreme court yesterday afternoon handed down fifty-one opinions, involving many of the most important cases ever tried in the territory. The case in which the greatest amount is at stake was that of Veder B. Paine vs. City of Guthrie, involving the title to one-fourth of the City of Guthrie, aggregating fully \$2,000,000 in value. The court granted a rehearing of the case.

Old Time Minstrel Dead.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13.—The angel of death entered the city hospital at 11 o'clock yesterday morning and stilled the heart of a minstrel whose voice thrilled the audiences of half a century ago with the rich, full melodies of the plantation. Charles Christie, whose name recalls the earliest recollections of burnt cork artists, closed his eyes in the last long sleep.

For Garfield University Purchase.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 13.—The special committee of the Senate, appointed to examine the buildings, grounds and equipments of Garfield university at Wichita, reported that the location and buildings were the best in the state for a state normal school and advised the state to make the purchase.

Commissioner Wright Reappointed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The President to-day nominated Carroll D. Wright of Massachusetts to be commissioner of labor (a reappointment.)

CONGRESSIONAL.

POSTAL APPROPRIATION BILL PASSED.

It Carries Over \$95,000,000—Senate Discusses the Anglo-American Arbitration Treaty—Summary of the Week's Congressional Proceedings.

Feb. 12.—The statue of Abraham Lincoln in the old hall of representatives was draped in the American flag and wreathed with flowers in honor of the 88th anniversary of his birth, but the House did not suspend business. On the contrary, it celebrated the anniversary by discussing the necessities of the postal service and passing the postoffice appropriation bill. The bill as passed carries \$95,435,714.

The Senate passed a resolution offered by Mr. Hill of New York requesting Secretary of War Taft to make an effort toward bettering the condition of Sylvester Scovel, the newspaper correspondent imprisoned in Cuba, and to insist on all treaty rights to which he is entitled. Mr. Morgan, Democrat, of Alabama, offered a resolution for the ratification of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. The bill was passed authorizing the appointment of an additional judge of the United States court in the Indian territory. Beyond this the proceedings of the brief open session, lasting less than an hour, were of a routine character. In executive session the arbitration treaty was further debated.

Feb. 11.—The Senate spent the greater part of the day in executive session debating the Anglo-American arbitration treaty. The entire time was consumed by Senators Turpie and Morgan, the former in advocacy and the latter in opposition to ratification. No action was taken on any amendment or on any part of the treaty, but little appreciable progress was made. The Senate passed the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill and fixed next Wednesday at 4 p. m. as the time for a final vote on the immigration conference report.

The House passed the fortifications appropriation bill with but a single amendment and made some headway with the postoffice appropriation bill. But the greater part of the day was consumed in a political debate on the financial question which was presented by an innocent provision in the bill providing for funding the debt of the territories. After considerable debate the gold clause was struck out.

Feb. 10.—Senator Morgan, the champion of the Nicaragua canal bill, announced in the Senate his abandonment of that measure for the present session of Congress, and thereupon it was displaced by the bankruptcy bill. The senator made this move after a protracted contest, covering several weeks, which had distracted the attention of the Senate from the immigration conference report. He gave notice that he would renew his advocacy of the bill at an early day of the coming extra session. The bankruptcy bill succeeded to the advantageous position of "undisputed ground," but the debate went on until to-morrow. The agricultural appropriation bill was taken up late in the day and passed at 8:25, 500. It led to a lively debate, in which Secretary Morton was sharply criticized by Senators Vest, Chandler, Tillman and others.

The House passed the Senate bill relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by express companies and it has gone to the president for signature. A fine of not to exceed \$5,000 or imprisonment not to exceed five years, or both, is the penalty for violation.

Feb. 9.—The most important developments concerning the consideration of the amendment to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, providing for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and the speech by the same Senator in favor of this proposition. Senator Morgan declared the considerations which led him to support the amendment, and long passed away. It was no longer binding on either nation nor was it of any use or value to this nation, though it might be of importance to Great Britain in case the Nicaragua canal was constructed. Another important amendment was offered by Senator Bacon of Georgia. It provides for a modification of article 8 so as to relieve the Southern states from any obligation that might arise under the bonds issued in the reconstruction days. Mr. Bacon sought an opportunity to address the Senate on the amendment, but this was prevented by the fact that Senator Morgan held the floor all day.

The House agreed to the final conference report on the immigration bill by an overwhelming majority, (217 to 89), and passed the treaty in one session, and overrode the veto. The beneficiaries of the pension bill passed over the veto were both of the class known as "remarried widows." Mr. Cleveland has disapproved a number of these bills, but he has also allowed several to become laws without his signature.

Feb. 8.—The Anglo-American arbitration treaty was under consideration by the Senate from 1 o'clock until 5:30. The entire proceeding was behind closed doors. The first half of the session was spent in debating a motion introduced by Senator Bacon, and the most animated part of the proceedings was based upon this matter. The debate was characterized by several sharp passages at arms between the author of the motion and Senators Morgan, Lodge and Sherman. The three last named, contending strenuously for the observance of the Senatorial custom of secrecy in dealing with the treaty. It was stated it was the wish of the administration that the public should be excluded from the debates. The only voice of the day was uttered on the Hill motion, which was defeated, the count showing only 9 for it and 49 against. The negative vote was cast by two gold Democrats, Hill and Lindsay; two silver Democrats, Boies and Sherman; two independent silver Republicans, Tamm and Pettigrew; two Populists, Peffer and Stewart; and one straight Republican, Brown. At adjournment the debate was still on.

The House devoted the whole day to District of Columbia business and eight bills of more or less local importance were passed.

Feb. 6.—The session of the Senate accomplished little save the passage of bills to which no objection was made. In the first part of the day Mr. Thurston of Nebraska continued his speech on the Pacific railroads. At 2 o'clock the Nicaragua bill came up but gave way to the cable bill. There was some discussion of the Cuba resolutions reported by the committee on foreign relations when reached, but they went over without action. At 3 p. m. colloquies were delivered on the late Representative Cogswell of Massachusetts.

The House passed the District of Columbia appropriation bill, and after some routine at 2:45 adjourned.

Will Form a Whisky Trust.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 13.—A secret meeting of distillers from all over the state was held in this city late last night for the purpose of forming a whisky trust of all Kentucky distillers. Their object is to control the output and the price of Kentucky whisky.

Wealthy St. Louis Man Suicides.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 13.—Richard L. Sharpe, president of the Keystone lumber mills, and a prominent Mason, committed suicide by shooting here to-day. For two years Mr. Sharpe had suffered from a malady which he believed to be incurable.

Millions on India Relief Work.

CALCUTTA, Feb. 13.—It is officially stated that 2,750,000 persons are now employed on the famine relief work in the different districts where the scarcity prevails.

THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

McKinley and Hobart Are Formally Declared Elected.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The first public exercises in connection with the incoming administration occurred at the capitol yesterday when two houses of congress in joint session counted the electoral vote of the various states and heard Vice President Stevenson formally announce the election of William McKinley as President and Garrett A. Hobart as Vice President.

Vice President Stevenson, who by law presided over the joint session, took his place by the side of Speaker Reed and then the tellers, Messrs. Lodge of Massachusetts and Blackburn of Kentucky on behalf of the Senate, and Grosvenor of Ohio and Richardson of Tennessee on behalf of the House, ascended to the clerk's desk immediately below the Speaker's table and prepared to count the vote.

At 1:40 o'clock the Vice President stated that the count had closed and directed the tellers to announce the result. There was a computation by the tellers.

Then Mr. Lodge announced: "The state of the vote for President and Vice President of the United States, as found by the tellers is: Whole number of electors, 447; of which a majority is 224. William McKinley of Ohio has received 271 for President, and William J. Bryan of Nebraska has received 176 votes. The state of the vote for Vice President is: Garrett A. Hobart has received 271 electoral votes, Arthur Sewell 149 and Thomas E. Watson 27 votes."

Mr. Lodge handed the result to the Vice President and Mr. Stevenson arose and repeated the detailed vote, adding the constitutional announcement that William McKinley and Garrett A. Hobart were elected President and Vice President respectively for the term beginning March 4. This closed the proceedings, which lasted just fifty minutes and had been devoid of incident or applause. The Senators marched back to their chamber and the House adjourned.

A CLASH EXPECTED.

Only Intervention by the Powers Can Prevent It.

ATHENS, Feb. 13.—The warlike excitement here increased with the departure of troops for the frontier and the equipping of additional war vessels for service in Cretan waters. Nobody seems to doubt that a clash at arms will occur between Greece and Turkey unless the powers intervene; but it is believed here that Greece will be given a free hand in Crete, and that if she succeeds in annexing that island her right to do so will not be questioned by the rest of Europe.

The porte is understood to have appealed to the powers to restrain Greece in this emergency, but nothing further is known of the policy Turkey is adopting, although it is reported that a large force of Turkish troops is assembling at Salonika for embarkation to Crete, that there is great activity in military circles on the Turkish frontier, and that a portion of the Turkish fleet is being prepared for active service.

ONLY HIS HEAD FOUND.

A Wealthy Indian Territory Stock Raiser Murdered.

INDEPENDENCE, Kan., Feb. 13.—Last night a wagon and team were found in a secluded place in the woods, not far from the road, at the crossing of the Verdigris river, about three miles east of Nowata, I. T., fifty miles south of here. To-day it was identified as that of Mr. Joel Mack, a wealthy stock raiser, who owns a large tract of land near Bartlesville, but whose family live in this city. His coat and hat were found near the wagon, and indications were that a struggle had taken place. Excitement ran high and upon further search it was found where his clothes had been burned, and later his head, detached from his body was discovered in some underbrush on the river's bank. His body cannot be found and it is probable that he was murdered and his body thrown into the river.

Peddler Proves to Be a Burglar.

LAWRENCE, Kan., Feb. 13.—Sheriff Gowans of Emporia came here yesterday to get Tom Berry, alias Frank Wilson, who was arrested here a few days ago for peddling without a city license. Berry had in his possession a lot of articles which aroused the suspicion of the police, who held him. He was wanted for burglarizing a book store at Emporia.

Tramp Commits a Brutal Murder.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Feb. 12.—A brutal murder was committed seven miles below Mansfield, in Scott county. The victim was a 10-year-old daughter of a farmer named Phillips. A tramp assaulted and afterward shot her to death and fled. If captured, he will be lynched.

A \$10,000 Suit Against the Wabash.

MEXICO, Mo., Feb. 13.—Lena Neimeyer has brought suit in the Montgomery county court for \$10,000 against the Wabash Railroad company. She claims that she was damaged by being ejected from a passenger train. She was ejected because she refused to pay her fare, being in the habit of riding free. She is only 9 years of age.

Against a Constitutional Convention.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 12.—The House committee on judiciary reported unfavorably a bill which provides for a constitutional convention. It is the same bill that passed the Senate yesterday.

No Sunday Closing in England.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—By a vote of 206 to 149 the House of Commons rejected the bill of Mr. Wilson (Liberal), providing for the closing of public houses throughout Sunday. Public houses are allowed to be open for a time in the middle of Sunday and Sunday evening.

President Hunting Again.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—President Cleveland left the city last night on the light house tender Maple for a day's duck shooting at Widewater, Va.

ON IOWA RAIL RATES.

PASSENGER SERVICE AND RATES COMPARED.

Reply of the State Railroad Commission to Inquiries by Agriculturists Regarding Average Receipts and Expenses.

DES MOINES, Iowa.—Correspondence Chicago Times-Herald.—W. W. Field of Odebolt, president of the State Agricultural society, anxious to enlighten its members on the merits of the railroad question, sought for information from the state board of railroad commissioners on the following points: What is the average rate of fare in Iowa? What does it cost the railroads to carry a passenger a mile? How are we (the agriculturists) to ascertain what charges would be fair on both sides? What is the opinion of the commissioners on the question? In reply an open letter has been written by W. W. Ainsworth, secretary of the commission, saying in part: "The question suggested by you have recently been considered by the board of railroad and warehouse commissioners of Illinois in response to an inquiry made by the state of that state. Its conclusion was that it would be unwise, unwarranted and unjust to the railroads to attempt to compare the rates of the great trunk lines in Illinois with those of the smaller roads, and these which do almost wholly local business, and which are now and have been for the last two years struggling for existence, would be most seriously affected by it. Such action on our part would simply increase the heavy burdens under which they are struggling now."

Decrease in Passenger Business.

"It is a well-known fact to those who have time and trouble to investigate the amount of passenger business done by the railroads in Illinois during the last two years that there has been a large decrease in the number of passengers carried. This is a due to the question, not to the amount charged for such service, but to the general depression in all business, the low prices of farm products and the unsettled financial conditions which have had their effect on the passenger as well as the freight business. This question was before the board of railroad and warehouse commissioners of Illinois in 1895 and 1896, the average amount charged by the railroads per passenger per mile is a fraction less than 2 cents, although the rates as permitted were 3 cents. For the reasons above stated we do not feel that this reduction should be made by us at this time. We are also asked to recommend this reduction to the legislature. In view of our conclusion we do not feel that it would be consistent for us to do so."

Receipts and Cost Per Mile.

"From the statistics given in the report of this commission for 1895 it appears that the average amount received by the railroads doing business in Iowa for carrying one passenger one mile was 2.34 cents. The large number of passengers who have traveled upon reductions of rates as permitted by our statutes—ministers of the gospel, organizations of our military, excursions on holidays, special rates to meetings of many organizations, state and county fairs, and others that reduce the average fare to the amount above stated. It is obvious, therefore, that the average must also be less than the rate fixed by law. The character of the business renders it impossible to make any rate that will be absolutely uniform. The Iowa report for 1895 shows one road, which returned the average cost of carrying one passenger one mile. The average cost of these companies was 2.14 cents. It is not reliable than if it were founded upon returns made by all the roads, which would probably increase it. In arriving at the cost of carrying one passenger one mile for the expenses of the railroads for interest, rents, taxes and miscellaneous fixed charges, and the cost of doing business, the commission has taken into consideration the fact that the passenger traffic should, of course, bear its proportion of these expenses, which constitute part of the cost of doing business. The statistics compiled by the interstate commerce commission it appears that the charge the passenger business of the railroads in its proportionate share of the fixed charges, not including anything, however, on account of dividends and crediting it with mail and express earnings, would give us as the actual cost 2.37 cents."

Figures on Reduced Traffic.

"The statement of the Illinois commission that there has been a general reduction of passenger business is undoubtedly confirmed by the statistics. For the whole United States the number of passengers carried one mile for each mile of railroad in 1890 was 751; in 1895 it was 68,572. Though the number of passengers carried was less in 1895 than in 1890, which, of course, increased the cost per passenger. In 1890 the total number of miles run by passenger trains in the United States was 28,575,804; in 1895 it was 31,565,515. In 1890 the revenues from passenger service in the United States decreased \$35,103,378, compared with 1889, though the figures for 1890 include 2,055,293 miles of road more than in 1889. The foregoing statements, which are based upon the most accurate statistics obtainable at this time indicate: 1. That at the present time the average fare charged in Iowa is less than the actual cost of transporting the passenger. 2. That within the last three or four years passenger earnings have decreased without a corresponding decrease in the cost of doing the business. Unless change have been made that have not come to the notice of the commission the following are the rates prevailing in the countries named: England—First class, 4.2 cents; second, 3.2 cents; third, 2.2 cents. France—First class, 4 cents; second, 3 cents; third, 2 cents. Italy—First class, 3.5 cents; second, 2.5 cents; third, 1.5 cents. Holland—First class, 3.2 cents; second, 2.6 cents; third, 1.6 cents. Belgium—First class, 2.4 cents; second, 1.8 cents; third, 1.2 cents. Except in England no baggage is carried free."

Density of Population a Factor.

"The density of population also affects the volume of passenger traffic. Where the population is dense there will be more travel than in sparsely settled districts. In Iowa, the population per square mile is as follows: In England, 541; Belgium, 514; Holland, 350; Italy, 288; France, 187; New York, 138; Ohio, 91; New England, 81; Illinois, 75; Missouri, 51; Wisconsin, 34; Nebraska, 15; Kansas, 19; South Dakota, 5. The population per mile of railroad in Iowa is about 247, in Illinois it is about 355; New York, 337; New England, 719; about 447; Wisconsin, 306; Nebraska, 209; Kansas, 108; South Dakota, 123. The average passenger earnings per mile, as shown by the report of this commission, of the roads operating in Iowa are \$900. The Kansas report for 1895 shows \$844. The Illinois report for 1895, as shown by the report of the interstate commerce commission, they are \$4,422 in New England, \$4,513 in New York and in Ohio \$1,951."

Quicker in the Old Days.

The Chicago Shade was in a confidential mood and put his feet over the arms of his throne. "I am a man with a history. When I was on earth I spent my life and my fortune fighting four divorce cases," he said tentatively to the bulky shade on his right.

"And yet they say the world progresses," mused the shade of Henry VIII., as he took a retrospective glance at the pages devoted to his term in the history books.—Pittsburg News.

Hermit of Hemlock Beach Dead.

EBENEZER Chichester, better known as the "Hermit of Hemlock Beach," died last week at Amityville, L. I. He had previously lived for forty years in a cave dug in a sand dune on Hemlock Beach. He was 85 years of age.

Valuable Paint Fields.

The largest mineral paint fields in the country have been discovered in Pine plains township, Allegan county, Mich. The pockets in some instances cover a half-acre and contain paints of various colors.

IN LINCOLN'S MEMORY.

Anniversary of His Birth Is Generally Observed.

CHICAGO, Feb. 13.—The Marquette club last night celebrated the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln by a banquet at the Auditorium hotel. About 600 were present at the banquet, the majority of them being members of the club. The great banquet hall of the hotel was decorated in a lavish manner with garlands, cut flowers and the national colors. The banquet proper began early in the evening and it was three hours later before the intellectual portion of the programme was reached.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 13.—The Indiana commandery of the Loyal Legion celebrated the eighty-eighth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln last night with a banquet at the Commercial club, at which covers were laid for 175 members of the Legion in the state and guests. General Lewis Wallace presided.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 13.—Lincoln's birthday was commemorated in this city by a banquet given at the West hotel by the Minnesota commandery Order of the Loyal Legion. There were 300 guests present from all parts of the state. The addresses were delivered by General John C. Black of Chicago, commander of the Illinois commandery, on "Abraham Lincoln," and by Archbishop John Ireland.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The statue of Abraham Lincoln in the Hall of Representatives was draped yesterday in the American flag and wreathed with flowers in honor of the 88th anniversary of his birth.

ALICE PLATT IS FREE.

Verdict of Acquittal for the Suspected Poisoner of the Mussey Children.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13.—Alice Platt was acquitted this morning of the charge of poisoning little Elizabeth Mussey. As she left the court room with her father and sister she waved her blue veil excitedly and shouted to the great crowd that had gathered: "Did you ever get left?" The jury at first stood seven for acquittal to five for conviction, but the five were gradually won over to acquittal.

Stricken on the Stage.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—Armand Castlemary, while singing the role of Tristano in Flotow's opera of "Martha" at the Metropolitan opera house last night, dropped dead in front of the footlights and almost in full view of one of the most brilliant audiences that has filled the theater this winter. So quiet was the matter kept, however, that few in the audience knew a tragedy had taken place before their very eyes.

Burglars Steal Evidence.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 13.—Burglars entered the office of Secret Service Agent Murphy in the Federal building here and stole all of the counterfeit money in the possession of the department. This robs the government of its chief evidence against counterfeiters now in jail